

Appl. No. 10/716,771
Amdt. Dated January 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 22, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached three (3) sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1A-1G and FIGS. 4A-4C. These sheets, replace the original four (4) sheets including FIG. 1A-1G and FIGS. 4A-4C.

Attachment: Replacement sheet 1 of 7, 2 of 7, 3 of 7 and 6 of 7.

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REMARKS

Claims 7-34 are currently pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1-4 and 6 have been canceled and Claims 7-34 have been added. The specification has also been amended to include the reference letters "N" to identify the needle. No new matter has been added by this amendment. In view of the amendments above and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed September 22, 2005, FIGS. 1A-1G were objected to by the Examiner because they were not designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. FIGS. 1A-1G have been amended to include the designation --Prior Art--. Accordingly, this objection to the drawings should be withdrawn. FIGS. 1C-1E have also been amended to delete reference numeral 22 which is not found in the specification with reference to these FIGS. FIGS. 4A-4C have also been amended to provide the reference letter "N" to identify the needle.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-4 and 6 were rejected as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 2 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 5,256,152 to Marks. Claims 3, 4 and 6 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully traverse with the rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Marks. However, in light of the rejections of Claims 1-4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and in order to expedite prosecution of this application, Claims 1-4 and 6 have been canceled in favor of new Claims 7-34. New Claims 7-34 are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited prior art including Marks and are of a scope to which Applicants

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believe they are entitled.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in this application, namely claims 7-34, are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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